12: Radin E-4 (no date) 1925 NU7 Aztec

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[title page]

12: Radin E-4 (no date) 1925 NU7 Aztec NU7
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MAYA, NAHUATL, AND TARASCAN KINSHIP TERMS

By PAUL RADIN

A
122
127

THE MAYA, Nahuatl, and Tarascan kinship terms presented below were extracted from the works of Spanish authors, as the citations will show. This work was financially supported by the New York Academy of Sciences.

Maya Kinship Terms[1]

M
601

yum. Father.	*mehen. Son, man's brother's child.
naa. Mother.	ixmehen. Daughter.
*zucum. Father's father.	i. Son's child.
*mam. Mother's father.	abil. Daughter's child.
mim. Father's mother.	*ɔɔin. Son's son.
chich. Mother's mother.	*mam. Daughter's son.
*zucum. Older brother.	*ɔɔin. Younger brother.
cic. Older sister.	*ɔɔin. Younger sister.
ich. Uterine sibling.	
ɔeyún. Father's brother.	*mehen. Brother's child.
ixcit. Father's sister.	*mehen. Woman's sister's child.
acan. Mother's brother.	achak. Sister's child.
ɔena. Mother's sister.	al. Woman's brother's daughter.
caazucum. Male cousin.	*mam. Father's brother's child.
caacic. Female cousin.	
icham. Husband.	atan. Wife.
*hazn. Wife's father.	*haan. Son-in-law.
nohyum. Husband's father.	ilib. Daughter-in-law.
ixhaan. Wife's mother.	
nohcó. Husband's mother.	
mú. Spouse's brother.	haauan. Woman's sister-in-law.
bal. Wife's brother.	
hachil. Child's parents-in-law.	

* Indicates that the term is used elsewhere in the system.

[1] From Beltrán, Arte del Idioma Maya, 1742.

12: Radin E-4 (no date) 1925 NU7 AztecNU7
Tarasco NU34

NAHUATL KINSHIP TERMS[2]

A
601

tatli. Father.
mantli. Mother.

tepil-(tzin). Son.
noconeuh. Son.
yacapantli. Daughter.
teconeuh. Daughter.

colli. Grandfather.
citli. Grandmother.

*yxuiuhtli. Grandson.
teixuih. Granddaughter.

*teachcauh. Older brother.
*teueltiuh. Older sister.

*teiccauh. Younger brother.
*teicu. Younger sister.

tlatli. Uncle.
auitl. Aunt.

*yxuiuhtli. Father's brother's son.

teixuiuh. Father's brother's daughter.

*teachcauh. Older male cousin except father's brother's son.
*teueltiuh. Older female cousin except father's brother's daughter.
*teiccauh. Younger male cousin except father's brother's son.
*teicu. Younger female cousin except father's brother's daughter.

teoquichui. Husband.

teciuauh. Wife.

montatli. Wife's father.
monnantli. Wife's mother.
textli. Wife's brother.

montli. Son-in-law.
ciua-montli. Daughter-in-law.
vexuatli. Husband's sister.

vepulli, Husband's brother, wife's sister.

TARASCAN KINSHIP TERMS[3]

T
601

*tata. Father.
nana. Mother.

*vuache. Son.
vuache cuzareti. Daughter.

cura. Grandfather.

nimatequa. Grandchild, older brother's grandchild.

cucu. Grandmother.

*yhtza. Older son's daughter.

vreti. Older brother and sister.
mimi. Older brother.
pipi. Older sister.

*vuengamberi. Brother.
*vuengamberi. Sister.
vuece. Sister.

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[2] From Molina, Vocabulario de la Lengua Mexicana, 1571.
[3] From Gilberti, Diccionario de la Lengua Tarasca, 1559.

12: Radin E-4 (no date) 1925 NU7 Aztec
Tarasco NU34

T
601

*tata. Father's brother.
auita. Father's brother.
papa. Mother's brother.
vaua. Father's sister.
tzitzi. Mother's sister.

auitaequaro vauche. Older brother's son.
*yhtza. Older sister's son.

*vuache. Parent's brother's child.
*yhtza. Parent's sister's child.

In addition to the above, the term for cousin is given in a descriptive manner, simply as son or daughter of my uncle or aunt.

minguarehpeti. Husband.
minguarecata. Wife.
quahchacucata. Wife.

tarascue. Wife's parent.

ytsicue. Husband's brother.
yuscue. Wife's brother, husband's sister.
tuuiscue. Wife's sister.

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